

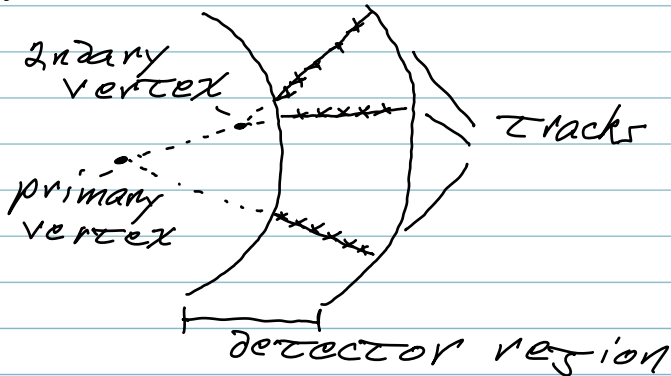
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## Tracking Detectors

- Critical to measure the trajectory of a particle
- establish directionality
- decay of unstable particles
- find originating vertex

Example:

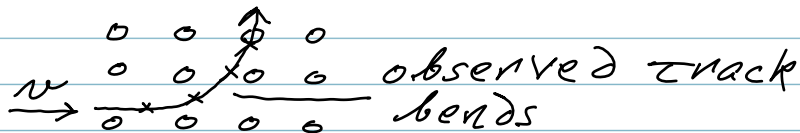
Drift chamber  
- extrapolate tracks to interaction point



- Need a non-destructive position measurement
- ionization
- low # of  $\kappa_0$
- Vertex determination
- requires very precise hit localization

Momentum Measurement

If a magnetic field:



$\vec{B}$  in

- indicates charged particle trajectory curvature

→ gives momentum

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

- as  $v$  increases

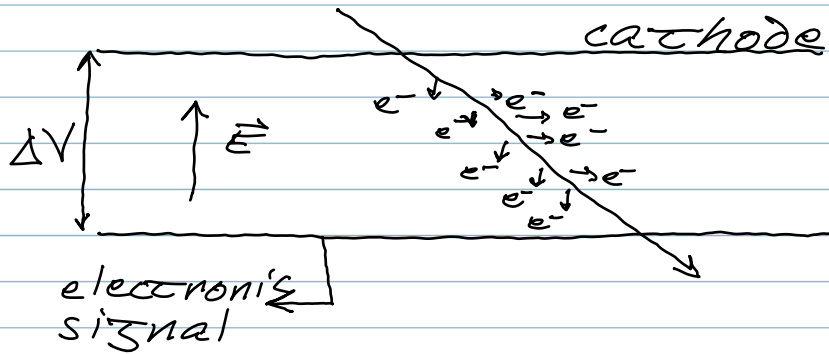
→ bend decreases for a fixed  $B$ -field

3 categories of common trackers

- gaseous ionization detectors
- semiconductors
- scintillations fiber trackers

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## Proportional Detectors



When  $\vec{E}$  is large enough

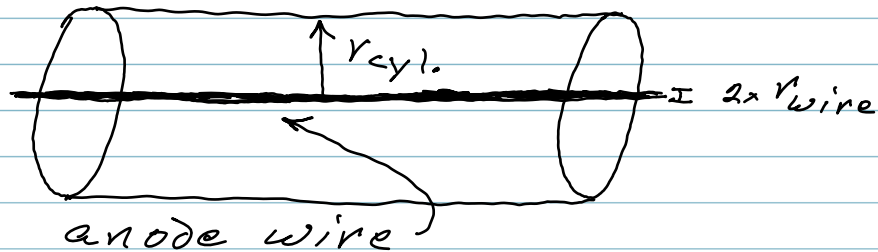
- primary  $e^-$  ionization
- gets enough KE to cause more ionization

- if  $\vec{E}$  lower than

- avalanche threshold
- $N_e \propto \#$  of primary ion pairs (ie.  $d\bar{e}/dx$ )

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Cylindrical geometry



$$|\mathcal{E}| = \frac{V_0}{r \ln(r_c/r_w)} \propto \frac{1}{r}$$

$\mathcal{E}$ -field highest near anode

- most secondary ionization there

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## Ionization Parameters in Gases

- secondary ionization

- cross section maximized

$E \sim 100 \text{ eV}$  (in Noble gases)

- primary ionization

- some  $\delta$  rays produce further ionization

-  $\gamma^s$  from atomic de-excitation

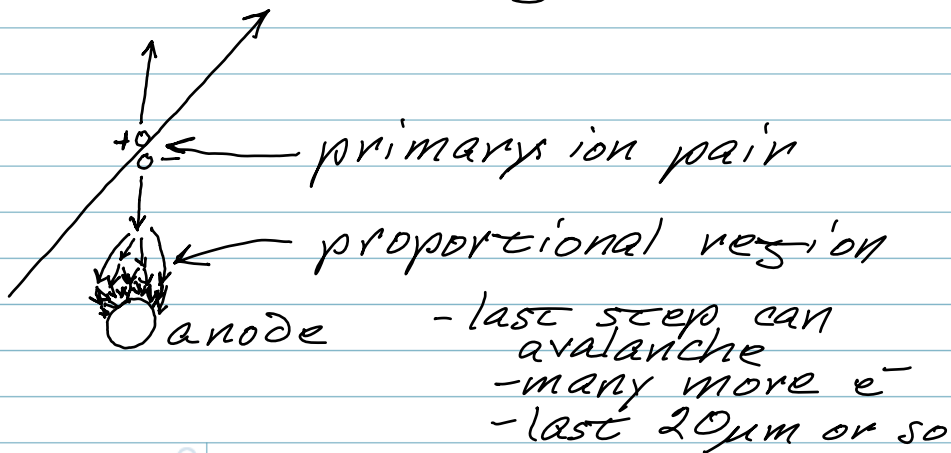
- can result in ionization

• # ions/unit length

- varies with substance

- average energy lost per ion pair

$\sim 30 \text{ eV}$  irrespective of gas



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## Simple Example

Ionization happens at location  
between electrodes



- more  $e^-$  as approach anode

$$dN = \alpha N dy$$

$N = \text{total \# of free } e^- \text{ to anode}$

coefficient  $\alpha$  a function of

- E-field
- gas pressure

- the change in #  $e^-$  yields:

$$N(x) = N_0 e^{\alpha x}$$

$N_0 = \text{\# primary } e^-$

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## Gas Amplification Factor

In practice

- speak of "total electron multiplication"

- or

"gas amplification factor"

$$M(x) = e^{\alpha x}$$

$$= \exp \left[ \int_{r_0}^{r_w} \alpha(y) dy \right]$$

$r_0$  - radius where  $E$  high enough to cause more ionization

In proportional counters

$$M \rightarrow \text{constant} * e^{V_0/V_{ref}}$$

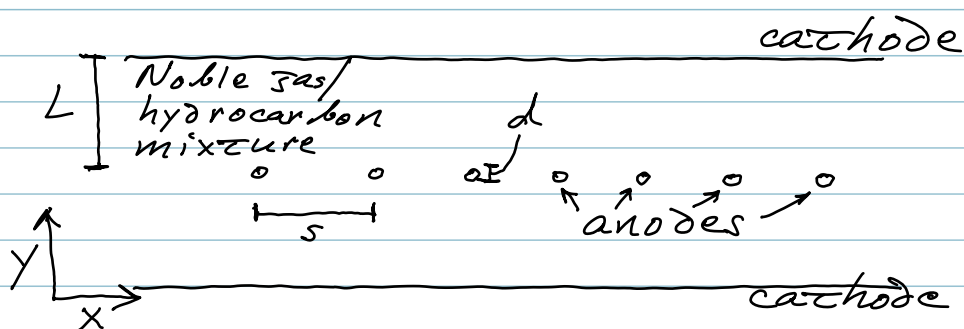
= constant for a given experimental configuration

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## Multiwire Proportional Chamber

Configuration where anodes are  
of thin wires

- sandwich a plane between  
cathode planes



$L$  = anode-cathode spacing  
~ 3-5x anode wire spacing  
 $s$  = anode wire spacing (~ 2mm)  
 $d$  = wire diameter (10-30 $\mu$ m)

Ability to collect charge on  
multiple wires

- improved spatial resolution

$$\delta(x) \sim \frac{s}{\sqrt{12}} = 580 \mu\text{m} \quad (s = 2 \text{mm})$$



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## Electrostatics

As wire diameter,  $d \rightarrow 0$

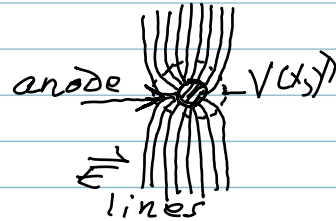
$$V(x,y) = \frac{cV_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{2\pi L}{s} - \ln \left( 4 \sin^2 \frac{2\pi x}{s} + 4 \sinh^2 \frac{\pi y}{s} \right) \right\}$$

$= V_0$  at anodes

$= 0$  at cathodes

In region of avalanche

- near anode
- nearly circular equipotential



$\therefore$  behave like proportional counter

Capacitance associated

$$C = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0}{\frac{2\pi L}{s} - \ln\left(\frac{\pi d}{s}\right)}$$

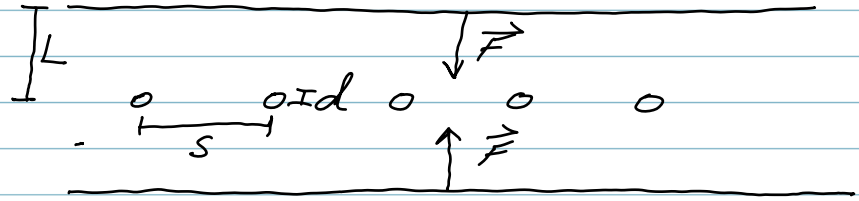
If  $s = 2\text{mm}$ ,  $L = 8\text{mm}$ ,  $d = 30\mu\text{m}$ ,

$$C = 3.6\text{pF/m}$$

# Wire Geometry

- wire spacings
  - or wire diameter
  - strong dependence of  $\vec{E}$  field
  - non-uniformity causes
    - $\vec{E}$  variations
    - significant variations of charge to wires
    - wires will shift in position

- can give 30% variations in gain



Forces can "pull" cathodes toward anodes

- can also cause gain variations

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## Electrostatic Forces on Wires

Need to ensure wire will tolerate

-  $V_0$  must not produce force that

- exceeds restoring force from wire tension

$$T \propto d^2$$

$$\therefore V_0 \leq s \sqrt{\frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 T}{LC}}$$

- limits 's' → cannot be too small

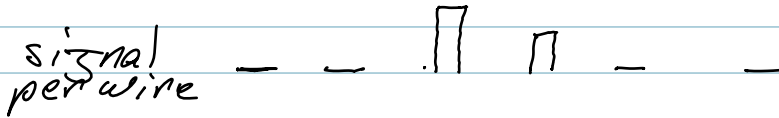
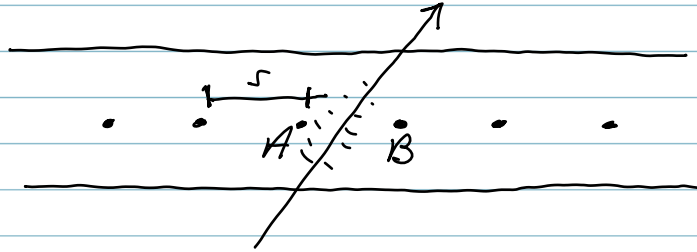
To hold wires stably

$$T \geq \left(\frac{V_0 LC}{s}\right)^2 \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

These effects on geometry  
& field must be modeled  
→ & therefore measured

# Segmentation + Spatial Resolution

Normally, position resolution limited in direction  $\perp$  nodes



- spatial resolution  $\frac{1}{2} s$

- improvement if interpolate  
ie. closer to wire 'A'  
than 'B'

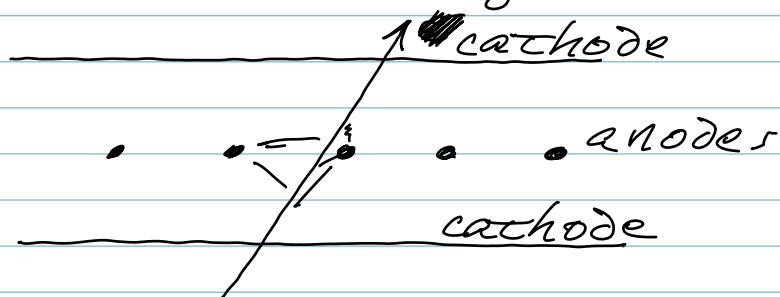
$$\sigma(x) \sim \frac{s}{\sqrt{12}}$$

$$= 580 \mu m \text{ if } s = 2 \text{ mm}$$

## ⑪⑦ Drift Chamber

Particle passes thru  
detector

$T_d$  = travel time of  $e^-$



- improve spatial resolution
- impact parameter of trajectory to anode
- drift distance

Consider timing resolution of 2ns  
and drift velocity  $\sim 4 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$

- resolution in drift distance

$$\sigma_x = v \sigma_t \sim \underline{\underline{8 \mu\text{m}}}$$

- there <sup>is</sup> a wide range of drift velocities

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## In More Detail...

Electric field not strictly constant

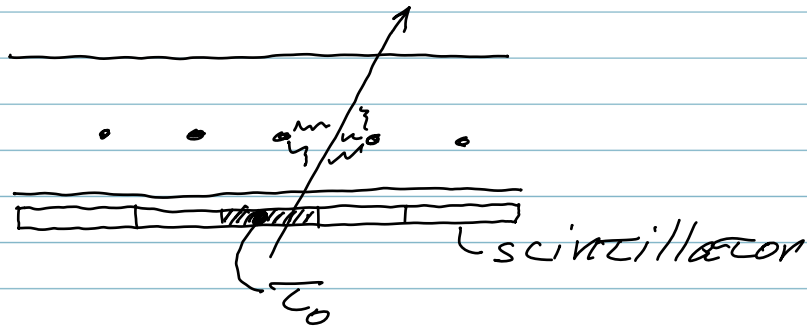
- if  $W(t)$  is drift velocity as a function of time

$$x = \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0 + \tau_d} W(t) dt$$

- a knowledge of the field

- allows more precise drift distance

Note: timing reference from a fast scintillator signal is possible



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## Variation in Drift Velocity

Drift velocity in  $\vec{E}$  direction

$$w_{\parallel} = \frac{2e|E|}{3m} \left\langle \frac{\lambda}{v} \right\rangle + \frac{1}{3} \frac{e|E|}{m} \frac{d\lambda}{dv}$$

$e, m \rightarrow$  charge + mass of  $e^{-}$

$\lambda =$  mean free path of  $e^{-}$   
with random velocity,  $v$   
- in drift chamber gas

-  $v$  randomized by collisions  
with atoms

- average  $\lambda/v$  over  
random velocities

In Presence of Magnetic Field

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$\vec{B} \perp \vec{E}$  and in direction of anodes

- creates a net drift velocity  
 $\perp$  to  $\vec{E}$

$$\omega_L = \left(1 + \frac{e^2 B^2 \lambda^2}{m^2 v^2}\right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{1}{3} \frac{e|E|}{m} \omega_L < \frac{\lambda^2}{v^2}\right)$$

- ignores  $\lambda$  dependence  
on  $v$

-  $\omega_L$  is Larmor frequency  
 $\omega_L = eB/m$

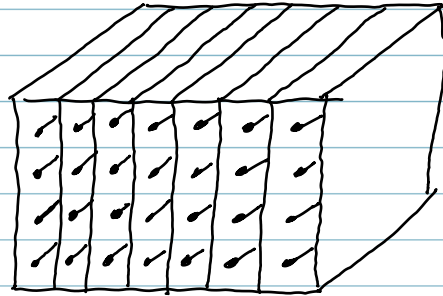
Net drift angle relative to  $\vec{E}$

$$\tan \alpha = \omega_L / \omega_H$$

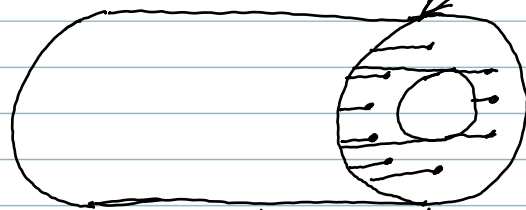


## ②1 Configurations of Detectors

Planar Chambers:



Cylindrical:

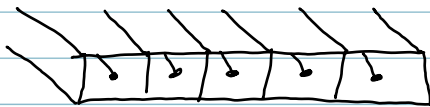


can have many planes of wires

- stereo + axial wires planes

- resolve ghost hits an 2-coordinate

Proportional Drift Tubes:



Advantages

- easier construction

→ cheaper

→ modular

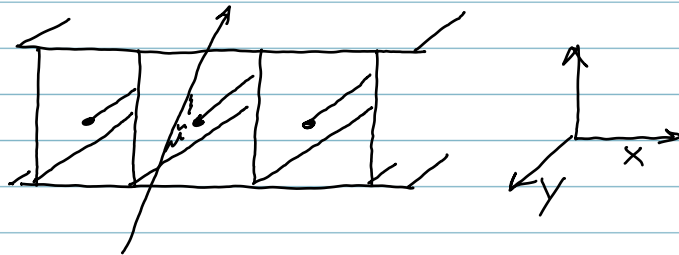
- self supporting structure

structure

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# Charge Division to Measure Position

Consider drift tube configuration

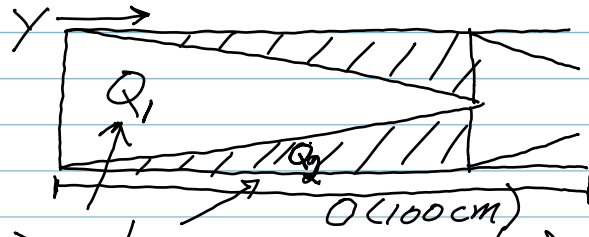


- measure  $T_d$  (drift time)  $\rightarrow$  x-coordinate

Second coordinate  $\perp$  anode plane (y)

- segmented cathodes above and below anodes

'pads' of electrically isolated conductor



- induced charge on cathodes

- measure charges  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$

$$y \propto \frac{Q_2 - Q_1}{Q_2 + Q_1}$$

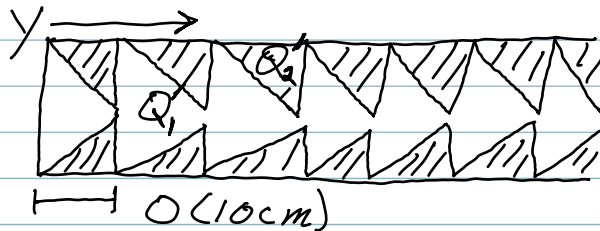
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## Improving Precision

If pads on top cathode large

- may get precision  $\tau_0$   
within many cm

Segment bottom cathode  
finer



- smaller  $\tau$  granularity  
→ better localization

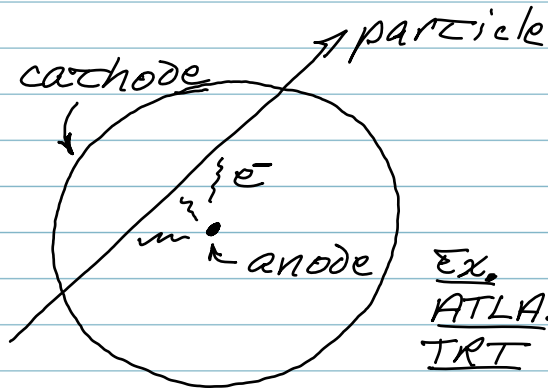
- top cathode accurate ~~en~~  
enough to indicate  
bottom pad

- a 20% measurement of  
charge

→  $\delta y \sim \text{few mm}$

## Straw Tube Detectors

- Tube of
  - aluminized mylar (cathode)



- place thin anode down center

$d \sim 5\text{mm} - 10\text{mm}$

- can construct very narrow
  - helps in spatial resolution
  - 30 $\mu\text{m}$  achieved!

### Advantages

- short  $T_d$ 
  - more responsive for fast data rates
- B-field has less impact on drift ( $\omega r \ll v_d$ )

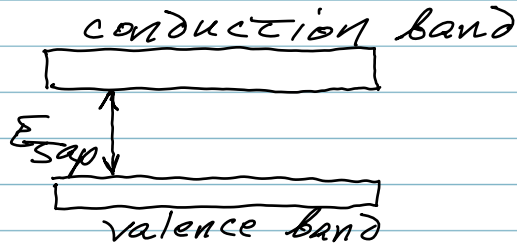
- modular construction

- isolation of wires
  - one breaking doesn't affect others

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## Semiconductor Detectors

Band theory:



- in a semiconductor
  - a modest energy gap,  $E_{gap}$  ( $\sim 1 \text{ eV}$ )
  - excitation of  $e^-$  in valence band
    - brings them to conduction band (readout)

Modes of excitation

- ionization
  - ex. 90 e-hole pairs per  $1 \mu\text{m}$  of path
  - more ionization than gas detection
    - $\therefore$  better spatial resolution
- photoelectric effect

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## Electrodes Placement

On surface of semiconductor

- eg. Si

- to enable readout

## Segmentation

- gives positional sensitivity

- strips

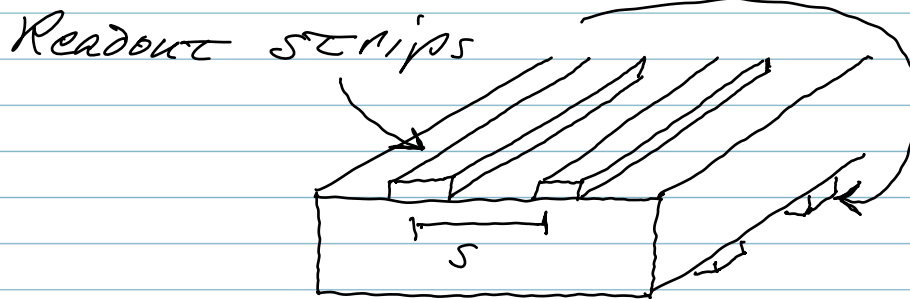
- pads

- pixels

} 2D segmentation

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## Silicon Microstrip Detectors



- separation,  $s$ ,  $\sim 20\mu$

- gives  $10\mu\text{m}$  spatial resolution

- similar concept to MWPC

### Second coordinate

- segment top + bottom planes of strips

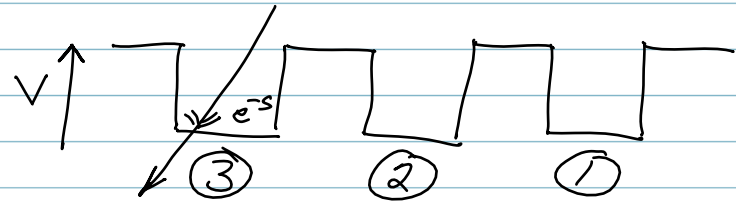
- orthogonally

- ~~in~~ again, like MWPC

Examples: ATLAS SCT  
(Semiconductor Tracker)  
 $\neq$  SMT (Silicon Microstrip Tracker)

# Pixel Detectors

Can subdivide chip into separate potential wells



20  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel  $\rightarrow$  5  $\mu\text{m}$  spatial resolution

- electrons remain in wells
- propagate to neighbor only when lower potential

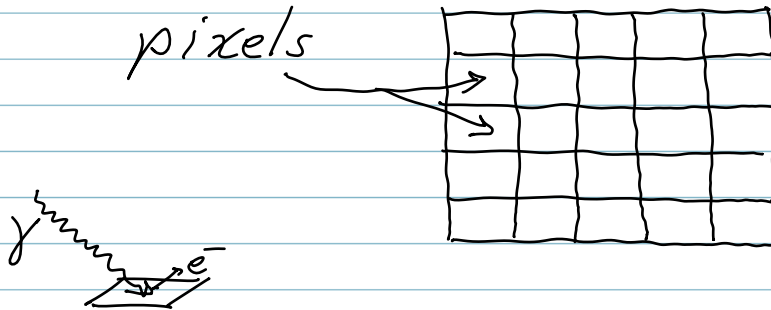
ex. readout ①  
 $\rightarrow$  move  $e^-$  in ②  $\rightarrow$  ①  
 $\rightarrow$  readout ①  
 $\rightarrow$  move  $e^-$  ③  $\rightarrow$  ②  $\rightarrow$  ①  
 ...

$\therefore$  readout detector pixel by pixel



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## Charge-Coupled Devices (CCDs)



Particle physics

- ionization detection
- slow readout
- not many e-hole pairs

Astrophysics

- photoelectric effect
- sensitive to incident  $\gamma$ 's

- resolution: a fraction of a pixel diameter

Example: ROSAT

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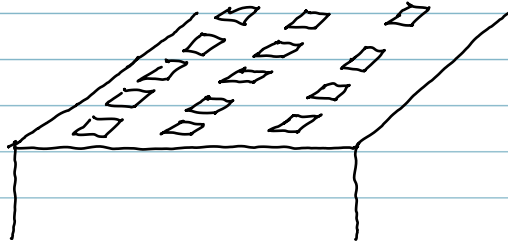
## Hybrid Pixel Detector

Try to solve <sup>ced</sup> readout time problem

- want to use in high data rate situation
- want the excellent spatial resolution of pixels

Consider microstrip detector again

- segment each strip in longitudinal direction (ie, along its length)



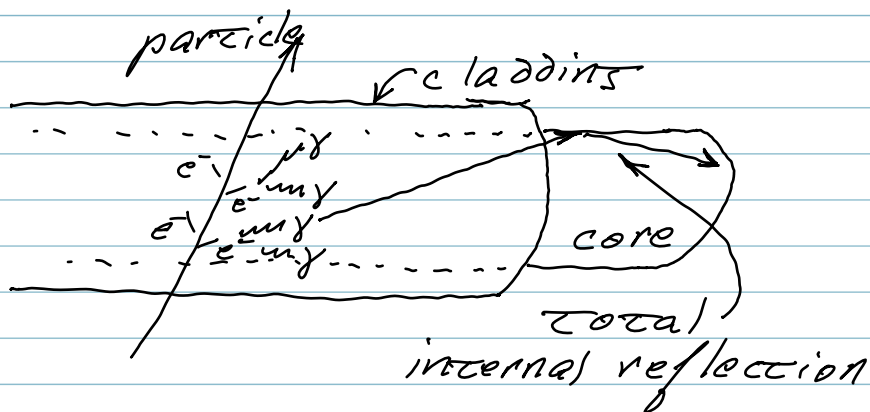
Readout each channel individually  
→ much faster

Example: ATLAS Pixel Detector

## 131 Scintillating Fiber Tracker

A scintillating fiber

- long, optically transparent fiber
- scintillation from additive in fiber
- glass or plastic macaronis (capillaries)
  - filled with scintillating liquid
- plastic fiber (eg. telecommunications)



Condition:  $n_{air} < n_{clad} < n_{core}$

Fibers usually  $10^5 \mu m$  to  $\sim 1 mm$

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Place fibers  $\perp$  to path of  
incident particle

- multiple layers provide  
measure of particle's  
trajectory

- can achieve spatial resolutions  
similar to gaseous detectors
  - no need for high voltages
  - modular
  - fibers readily fabricated

Scintillation light

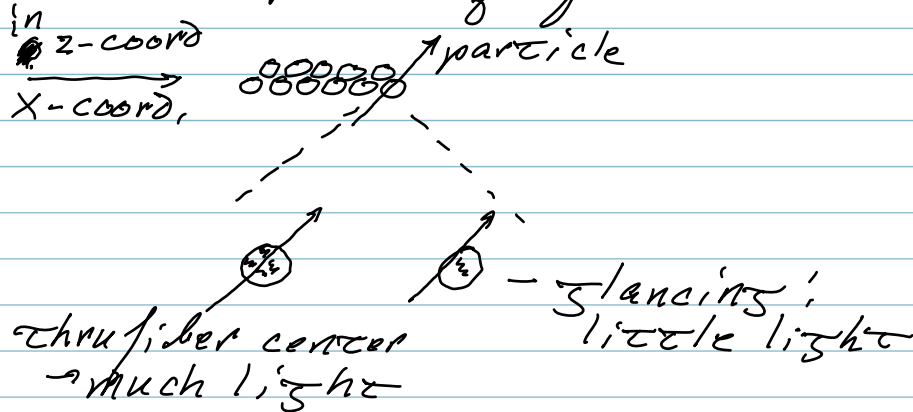
- very prompt
  - good time resolution
  - appropriate for high  
rates

- a better fit for tracking  
than gas drift systems

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# EXTRACTING A TRACK

Have a plane of fibers

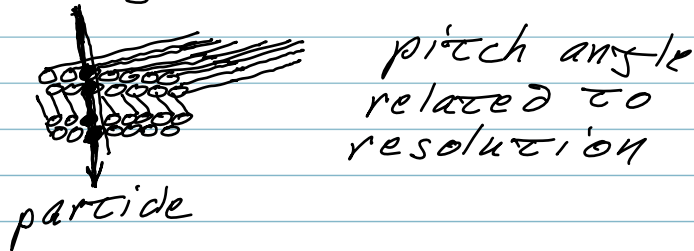


x-coord -  
inate

- can use center of fiber,  
or better to use light  
yield

Second coordinate (z)

- along fiber
- another layer at stereo angle



Example:  $\Delta \phi$  Central Fiber Tracker (LCFT)